



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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K. Galt
2/6/04

In re the Application of:

Yoji Nishio et al.

RECEIVED

Confirmation Number: **4622**

Serial No.: **10/058,944**

FEB 05 2004

Group Art Unit: **3727**

Filed: **January 30, 2002**

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Examiner: **Tri M. Mai**

For: **PROCESS FOR PRODUCING SEALED
CONTAINER AND BLANK ...**

Attorney Docket: **020100**

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: **February 4, 2003**

Sir:

This paper is in response to the Office Action mailed on November 4, 2003; no extension fee is due. However, any fees needed for this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 01-2340 and, in the event this paper is not timely filed, then consider this paper as a petition for an appropriate extension of time.

Claim 4 is amended to recite a structural feature that is supported in claim 1.

New claim 9 recites that a first width of the second and fourth bottom panels is smaller than a second width of the first and third bottom panels, which is supported in the specification at page 22, lines 9-21. It is noted that the amendment to claim 4 changes "square" to "generally square" and there is conflict. Claim 10 recites that the two bottom horizontal scores are upwardly bulged by an amount less than or equal to 1 mm. This is supported at page 15, lines 11 and 14, and in Fig. 2 (showing $\epsilon 1$ and $\epsilon 2$).

New claims 11 and 12 follow withdrawn claims 2 and 3, but depend from claim 4.

The new claims are patentable because they describe novel and unobvious subject matter, and for the reasons set forth below.